

From: [Kelley, Jeff](#)
To: [Deamer, Eileen](#); [Behnke, Kristina](#)
Cc: [Bassler, Rachel](#)
Subject: Fwd: Draft Statement - ASAP review
Date: Thursday, April 13, 2017 5:00:26 PM

This language is good to go.

Jeff Kelley
Director, Office of External Communications
U.S. EPA Region 5
ph: 312-353-1159

From: Kelley, Jeff <kelly.jeff@epa.gov>
Sent: Thursday, April 13, 2017 4:52 PM
Subject: FW: Draft Statement - ASAP review
To: 'Nancy Grantham (Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov)' <grantham.nancy@epa.gov>

Updated language for review:

EPA emergency responders continue to sample and monitor the Burns Waterway and Lake Michigan following U.S. Steel's April 11 report that its Portage, Ind., facility had released hexavalent chromium to the waterway. U.S. Steel reported yesterday to EPA that its release was stopped at the source. It is still not known how much has been spilled.

- Preliminary data suggests that hexavalent chromium from the spill is not present near drinking water intakes.
- EPA collected roughly 100 additional samples yesterday and an additional 100 samples today. EPA expects to start receiving results tomorrow and will share once they become available.
- The City of Chicago has conducted their own sampling at its water intake and in Lake Michigan 1 mile from the U.S. Steel facility. The city reported [that](#) samples taken about a mile north of Burns [Waterway](#) detected a [hexavalent chromium](#) level of 2 parts per billion.
- Indiana American Water will keep their water intake closed and it will not be reopened until at least Monday.
- The National Park Service will continue to keep beaches closed while sampling continues.

EPA continues to work closely with the Indiana Dept. of Environmental Management, the City of Portage, the water company and NPS. EPA will continue to provide updates on its website:

<https://response.epa.gov/USSteelHexavalentChrome>